



**COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE**  
**Meeting Summary Full Commission**  
**September 21, 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lindsey Allard Agnamba, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, Hashan Chowdhury, Blaise DeFazio, Carl Eggleston, Diana Holzberger, Yvonne Iscandari, Edward Krauze, Laura Seminario-Thornton, Greg Smith, Barbara Warman, Mayme Claire Williams

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dr. Barbara Andrews, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, Pamela Dunn, Brigid Howe, April Kaplan, and Claudia Simmons

**STAFF PRESENT:** Erin Stillwell, DHHS; Sarah Wilch-Spamer, DHHS

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Marta Licon, Tanzeen Abbasi, Shaun Rose, Sybil Phillip and Michael Subin

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Ed Krauze called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

**ACTION:** Approval of the meeting summaries from June 15, 2016 and July 20, 2016 full commission meetings; all in favor; meeting summaries approved without any changes.

**CHAIR'S REPORT (Ed Krauze)**

- Welcome to Blaise DeFazio, ex officio member from CUPF (County Council confirmation scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup>).
- Congratulations to Hashan Chowdhury on the arrival of his new baby

**Guest Speaker: Carl Eggleston, Regional Manager, Office of Child Care, MSDE**

- A number of vacancies in OCC, impacting caseloads; awaiting new hires
- Awaiting hire of nurse case manager from MSDE
- Child Care Provider Survey
  - Office of the Superintendent had sent out a survey to 5553 child care providers and 11 child care associations
  - Survey asked questions and allowed space for anonymous comments
  - Survey closes September 30<sup>th</sup>; still time to respond
  - To date: 648 total responses; of those 108 from Montgomery County; most from family child care providers (56% total from family child care providers across the state)

- Questions about child care regulations and providers understanding of regulations
- A number of the comments focused on EXCELS, communication from OCC and MSDE, credentialing and training
- Results of the survey will be sent to the Ombudsman for MSDE
- Push to have better communication b/w OCC and provider community; push for better customer services for providers
- Questions for Carl from CCC members:
  - Do you think this survey will help Region 5 be a leader in this effort for better communication?
  - Carl shared that e-blasts have been helpful in communication; OCC needs to have the most updated email for the provider; licensing specialist can add/change the provider's email in the system
- Other Updates:
  - New website: Early Childhood Education via MSDE website
  - E-blast is sent from Region 5 Office
  - Per federal mandate: child care inspection complaints will soon be available to the general public; procedure as to how this will be distributed is still in the works (no CPS information or narrative will be included)
  - Child care public portal still in the works; target date is October 1<sup>st</sup>; a few providers will have access to work out the errors before it goes live (can submit vouchers and attendance via the portal)
  - If a provider has a complaint, best to contact their licensing specialist or licensing specialist's supervisor
  - Child care center manual is currently online; all manuals will be online in the future (under news/updates bulletin)
  - For inspections, providers can always request the review of findings

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Confirmation of Priorities
  - Priorities were reviewed by the CCC, amendments were made

### **ACTION: Approval of priorities with recommended changes; all in favor**

- Discussion of Policy Breakfast
  - Possible dates: January 31, February 1, 2, 7, 8 or 9<sup>th</sup> 2017
  - Way to educate policy members about the "day in the life" of child care providers
  - Help educate the impact of credentialing/licensing on providers
  - Include parents who are consumers of child care services
- Discussion about delineating work of priorities to each commission
  - From now until January 2017 combine the work of the two committees to focus on priorities

**Child Care Subsidy Program (Yvonne Iscandari)**

- Rene Williams has left; Deatrice Brown is now the acting program manager
- WPA Waitlist: 274 children on waitlist; 173 families
- County Council provided over 1 million for State Subsidy vouchers (added 469K to the current budget)
- 1339 supplemental vouchers were issued in July/August 2017
- Continue to process priority one cases (those families receiving TANF)
- 725 active WPA cases
- Average \$677/mo/per child subsidy
- At the beginning of FY17-first group of waiting list (15 children) were added to waiting list

**Early Childhood Coordination Council (Sarah Wilch-Spamer)**

- ECCC met on 9-22-16
- ECCC currently has 10 vacancies
- Working on the priorities for the year
- Next meeting October 19<sup>th</sup>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.**